



**ΧΡΗΣΤΙΑΝΙΚΗ ΑΡΧΑΙΟΛΟΓΙΚΗ ΕΤΑΙΡΕΙΑ**  
ΕΠΙΣΤΗΜΟΝΙΚΗ ΕΤΑΙΡΕΙΑ ΓΙΑ ΤΗ ΜΕΛΕΤΗ ΤΗΣ ΒΥΖΑΝΤΙΝΗΣ  
ΚΑΙ ΜΕΤΑΒΥΖΑΝΤΙΝΗΣ ΑΡΧΑΙΟΛΟΓΙΑΣ ΚΑΙ ΤΕΧΝΗΣ  
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### **Αποχαιρετισμός στην Olga Popova**



**1938-2020**

Το Διοικητικό Συμβούλιο της Χριστιανικής Αρχαιολογικής Εταιρείας ανακοινώνει με βαθύτατη θλίψη τον θάνατο, στις 16 Ιανουαρίου 2020, της εξαιρετης ερευνήτριας της βυζαντινης τέχνης και ιδιαίτερα της βυζαντινης ζωγραφικής Όλγας Sigizmundovna Popova, επίτιμου μέλους της από το 1998.

Επιστήμων υψηλού κύρους με πάρα πολλούς μαθητές, διευθύντρια του Τομέα της Βυζαντινης Τέχνης του Κρατικού Ινστιτούτου Μελετών της Τέχνης, καθηγήτρια στο Lomonosov Κρατικό Πανεπιστήμιο της Μόσχας για περισσότερα από 50 χρόνια, αφήνει με τον θάνατό της ένα μεγάλο και δυσαναπλήρωτο κενό στην κοινότητα των βυζαντινολόγων.

Μαθήτρια του Victor Lazarev ασχολήθηκε όπως και αυτός με όλους τους κλάδους της βυζαντινης τέχνης, αλλά κυρίως με τη βυζαντινή ζωγραφική, με βυζαντινά και παλαιορωσικά εικονογραφημένα χειρόγραφα, εικόνες, ψηφιδωτά, τοιχογραφίες. Έχει συγγράψει πάνω από δέκα μονογραφίες και πάνω από εκατό επιστημονικές μελέτες.

*Ακολουθεί νεκρολογία από τη μαθήτριά της Άννα Ζαχάροβα:*

### **Olga Popova (13.07.1938 – 16.01.2020)**

With great sadness we have to inform that Professor Olga Popova has passed away on January 16, 2020, in Moscow. She was a world-class expert in Byzantine art, the leading Russian specialist in this field, professor of Lomonosov Moscow State University, head of the Department of Byzantine art at the State Institute for Art Studies in Moscow and member of the Christian Archaeological Society since 1998.

Olga Sigizmundovna Popova was born in Moscow on July 13, 1938 into a family of Polish origin. Her father was a journalist, he died in the war in 1941. Olga was brought up by her mother who worked in the library of Moscow Artists Union. In 1955-1960 Olga studied history of art at Lomonosov Moscow State University. She specialized in Old Russian Art under the supervision of professor Victor Lazarev. After graduating from the university, she married Yury Popov, specialist in German philology and philosophy.

In 1960-1965 Olga Popova worked in the Manuscript Department of Lenin State Library (now Russian State Library). Since that time she acquired special interest in Old Russian and Byzantine illuminated manuscripts. In 1965-1968 she accomplished her postgraduate studies and started teaching at Art History department at the Faculty of History of Lomonosov Moscow State University, where in 1973 she defended her Ph.D. dissertation, *The Art of Novgorod and Moscow in the First Half of the 14th century and its Connections with Byzantium*. From 1968 to 2020 she lectured on Byzantine art. She also taught Old Russian and Western Mediaeval Art for a shorter period. During her half-century long work at Moscow University Olga Popova had hundreds of students. Many of them now work in universities, research centers and museums of Moscow, as well as other cities and countries.

Starting her research in the 1960-1970ies, Olga Popova first worked mainly on Old Russian illuminated manuscripts and icons, although she was always interested in the connections with Byzantium. Her first book *Les miniatures russes du XIe au XVe siècle* was published in French in 1975 (shorter versions were also published in 1984 in French, English, and German). The second book, based on her dissertation, appeared in 1980. About that time her interests gradually shifted towards Byzantine art, especially after 1990 when travelling abroad became much easier for Russian scholars. The possibility to see many great monuments of Byzantine art in situ and to discuss them with colleagues all over the world gave a powerful impetus for her further scholarly work. In the next three decades Olga Popova published over a hundred of articles and several books, including *Die Fülle des Lichtes. Ikonen aus Byzanz* (Milano 1994), *Ascesi e Trasfigurazione. Immagini dell'arte bizantina e russa nel XIV secolo* (Milano 1996), *Byzantine and Old Russian Miniatures* (Moscow 2003, in Russian), *Issues of Byzantine Art. Mosaics, Frescoes, Icons* (Moscow 2006, in Russian), *The Byzantine Miniature from the Second Half of the 10th to the Early 12th Century* (Moscow 2012, in Russian, co-authored with Anna Zakharova and Irina Oretskaia), *Paths of Byzantine Art* (Moscow 2013, in Russian), *Mosaics and Frescoes of Saint Sophia Cathedral in Kiev* (Moscow 2017, in Russian, co-authored with Vladimir Sarabianov).

Following her teacher Victor Lazarev, in her research Olga Popova used a thorough stylistic analysis of artistic forms and pictorial devices in order to reveal the special spiritual meaning of the Byzantine images. Her methods are also close to those of Otto Demus, Ernst Kitzinger and other scholars of that formation. She had a keen eye for attribution, but she always strived to go further and deeper in understanding Byzantine art in general and to create a comprehensive notion of this phenomenon in world culture.

*Anna Zakharova, Lomonosov Moscow State University*